## Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

## FIRE CHIEF'S GENERAL ORDER

NUMBER: 06-05 REVISED

November 21, 2006

TO:

All MCFRS Personnel

FROM:

Fire Chief Thomas W. Carr, Jr.

**SUBJECT:** 

Weapons of Mass Destruction Operations Training

In order to be prepared for an event involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), the Council of Governments Fire Chiefs agreed that all fire service-based first responders in the National Capital Region (NCR) would receive operations-level training in WMD response. Funding for delivery of this training has been provided by federal funds through the Urban Area Security Initiative Grant (UASI). The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service received UASI funding for Level B and C personal protective equipment (PPE), and this specific training focuses on training MCFRS personnel on the use of the equipment for response to a Weapons of Mass Destruction incident in the County or region.

The WMD Operations Level Course is a 24-hour training class delivered over three days. It provides a thorough examination of domestic terrorism, and an advanced level of the chemical and biological toxicology associated with industrial and military chemical warfare and radiological agents. The practical component of the training course will focus on using PPE purchased through the UASI Program, in order to familiarize the region's first responders with the capabilities of this equipment.

All MCFRS personnel will complete the NCR WMD Operations Course, as required by the Fire Chief through County Regulation. The initial MCFRS organizational roll-out will require all unit officers at the ranks of fire/rescue Lieutenant and Captain to enroll in the NCR WMD Operations Course. This course will be offered in several locations, and at various times, in each of the region's jurisdictions. MCFRS has six seats for each of the scheduled training sessions. Personnel must attend all three training session dates sequentially to receive credit for the class.

Career Officers and bargaining unit members will be detailed and compensated for overtime, as outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between IAFF Local 1664 and Montgomery County Government. Personnel should provide a detail date, if applicable, when registering. LFRD members should consider the weekend training dates as their primary training opportunities for this course.

All MCFRS participants <u>must bring</u> their issued AV3000 face piece with them. All MCFRS EMS Provider personnel must obtain a loaner face piece from the LFRD, or their on-duty Battalion Chief, for use during this course. Please note that the <u>start time for the first training session</u> of this course is 0700 hours for administrative purposes; the <u>remaining sessions begin at 0800 hours</u>. Additional training courses will be offered in future years as federal funds are allocated through the UASI Grant.

As additional WMD courses become available to the County through the UASI vendor, Division Chief Bowers will post available dates and registration information through the County e-mail system.

